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In this issue of the NEJM are two fascinating pieces and an important editorial. An article starting on p647 by Mueller et al uses b type natriuretic peptide for acute dyspnea and an article by wang et al studies plasma natriuretic peptide levels and their relationship to cvd risk and death. Then there is an excellent editorial on biomarkers with a focus on the previous mentioned peptide. These articles and the editorial are highlighted in this issue. In the first article the authors state that their data support the use of this peptide in the relief of this medical problem. In the second article which may be of significance with respect to cvd and biomarkers. These authors feel that this peptide marker could be effective in marking individual for cvd risk even in the absence of apparent disease. As an aside for the repro folks there is also a nice piece on preeclampsia. The editorial starting on page 718 is must reading..... For ERP types there is a piece on NIH funding success rates (936). Page 941 has a nice piece on how drugs that treat asthma may benefit CV inflammation... Is some one tracking the Icelandic studies?. Interesting piece on Hungarian science page 942 budget cut impacting science. Super neat article on mitochondria/apoptosis/BAX and P53. Describes a direct link from DNA damage and apoptosis through P53 to BAX to the mito and then goodnight. If any one reads this please let me know what they think. Richard

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